

MidAmerica Region, UUA

**Board Business Meeting Agenda:
Saturday, November 14, 2015**

3:30 pm Eastern Call to Order

3:31 pm Opening Readings: **MidAmerica Vision Statement**

[Doug] "The MidAmerica Region [is] building a new era in Unitarian Universalism, where UUs visibly live our faith, create connections, grow our membership, [and] welcome all persons who share our UU values."

Covenant of the Board of the MidAmerica Region of the UUA

(Janis)As we work together to engage boldly in building the future of our denomination, empowering the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we, the Board of the MidAmerica Region promise ourselves and each other . . .

- (David L.)To keep **spirituality** present within us as individuals and as a community, to remember always that we are doing religious work, and to remember that our Unitarian Universalist message can be transformative.
- (Kyrie)To show up for meetings prepared, actively participate, and learn together and from each other.
- To communicate within agreed-upon response times using agreed-upon communication methods.
- (Eric)To hold a safe space when we gather and work together: holding good intentions, being respectful, listening deeply, including all voices and honoring them. To that end, we encourage use of the following wisdom from our youth:
 - o recognize that our intentions may be different from our impact;
 - o speak up at the beginning of discomfort, and not wait until anger or frustration overwhelms us.
 - o speak one at a time.
- (Ellen)To hear every voice at the table, voice disagreements, seek to understand and then to be understood. Our shared intention is not always to reach unanimity, but rather to leave the meeting with a commitment that each participant can affirm decisions reached, so the Board will speak with one voice to the public.
- To locate authority in the Board, not in the individual board member.

- (Ian) To honor and respect our commitments to Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, and Multi-Culturalism. To honor and respect our commitments to congregations, and other constituencies as we work together.
- (Dawn) To have fun and laughter in our shared experience, and to celebrate.
- To embody the spirit of generosity and the experience of abundance in our work together.
- To be in active and intentional relationship with other groups, part of a larger web of interdependence.

(Eric) We will keep this covenant present before us, and when we are having trouble keeping this promise, we will lovingly remind one another of our covenant.

Drafted August 25, 2013, and adopted October 3, 2013, Revised: 11 September 2015

3:36 pm Consent Agenda

- Appointment of Timekeeper - Kyrie
- Appointment of Process Observer - Doug
- Appointment of Advocate - Dawn
- Minutes of the 10/6/2015 MidAmerica Board Business Meeting – David Marin moved the motion. Consent agenda approved.
- 1QFY2016 MidAmerica Region Financial Reports and Analysis
- MidAmerica Region Staff Report

3:45 pm Review and possible adoption of recommendation(s) from the Strategic Planning Working Session

Eric shared about our Strategic Planning that he feels really strongly that the Board entity exist. He feels that there would be a voice that would be lost with the absence of this Board. David Martin stated that it is the MAR Board's responsibility to work with staff and Scott Tayler and to come up with the Strategic Plan. We as a Board should be planning for the region. David Martin is not ready to say we don't need a Board anymore.

David Lauth stated we will want to have a discussion around what the SP is for the Region. We have no other reason to be here other than to state what we want for the Region.

Ellen stated that the questions "What does it mean to be a Board" needs to keep being raised and defined.

Doug – it is still unclear to him but he does feel better about it. What concern him is in the “How to do it?”. Eric and Doug will discuss further offline.

4:15 pm Action regarding appointment of MA board member to CL staff search committee

Eric appointed David Lauth to be the MAR Board member for this search team for the new prospective CL Staff member. Eric called to vote and there was a unanimous appointment. No further discussion.

4:30 pm Review and possible adoption of Preliminary Agenda and proposed Rules of Procedure for the 2016 MidAmerica Region Annual Business Meeting

Eric called for approval of adoption as amended and discussed was called for by Doug Cable. Dawn Cooley seconded. Called for vote. This was unanimously approved.

Eric called for the motion to approve the proposed Rules and Procedures for the 2016 MAR RA. David Martin moved, Ellen seconded the motion. Unanimous vote and appointment.

4:40 pm Lisa called to have a vote of approving for the MAR Endowment Fund, reaffirming our subscription (Lisa will send me the official blurb of what this statement should say).

Dawn Cooley moved this motion, Doug Cauble seconded this motion. Unanimous approval.

4:45 pm Status review of MidAmerica Region’s Learning Network

Dawn gave a brief report. The group has been meeting each month, they have been taking this apart, defining their own job descriptions, some wanting more concrete, some want to learn and understand what the LNC is? Dawn stated that this is very healthy, but challenging because they are not sure what they are supposed to do. Everyone recognizes that congregations want to connect with each other, but HOW do we connect them with each other. She has stated that she has concerns that people do not what they voted for and that individuals actually fully understand this comes in to question for her. She also stated that covenant stands great on its own, it does need a task force to it. What there is for the Region to (that they don’t know how to do) is to facilitate relationships.

David Lauth and David Martin questioned how can you take it back to the congregations and begin to understand what level of interest there is with something you cannot even describe or understand.

Ian stated having staff create something that no congregations show up for does not make sense.

Eric stated we can continue to explore and include communication with expectations and desires from the Task Force to help move things.

5:00 pm Status review of 2015 MidAmerica Board Objectives

This item was struck from the Agenda today.

Ian requested Board member(s), a few, write up about what took place at this weekend's meeting, i.e. Scott Tayler, different discussions. David Martin volunteered to complete this for FB, Website, etc. postings.

5:20 pm Process Observer Comments

Doug delivered.

5:28 pm Closing Words (Ellen and Eric)

5:30 pm Adjournment Ellen moved the motion, David, seconded it, unanimous approval.

Preliminary Agenda of the 2016 Annual Business Meeting of the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Saturday, April 30, 2016

This meeting will be held as part of the 2016 MidAmerica Regional Assembly in St. Paul, MN.

Please note that the following reports are included in Annual Business Meeting Delegate Packet:

- Report of the MidAmerica Region President
- Report of the MidAmerica Regional Lead
- Report from MidAmerica Directors of the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Conference (MUUC)
- Report from the Camp UniStar Foundation
- Report from the MidAmerica Region Nominating Committee
- MidAmerica Region FY2015 Financial Reports
- MidAmerica Region FY2016 Financial Reports (through 12/31/2015)
- MidAmerica Region FY2017 Budget (as approved by the MidAmerica Board)
- MidAmerica Region Transition Budget Report

Annual Business Meeting Preliminary Agenda MidAmerica Region, UUA

The Purpose of the MidAmerica Region is "... to support, enrich, and extend Unitarian Universalism in the defined geographic area. The Region shall work in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Association." (Bylaws, Article II, Section 1)

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Opening Words
3. Introduction to MidAmerica Region
4. Credentials Report and Certification of a Quorum
5. Approval of the Rules of Order
6. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of MidAmerica Trustees, MidAmerica Nominating Committee members, and MUUC Directors
7. An Expression of Appreciation from our Unitarian Universalist Association
8. Report of the MidAmerica Region Learning Network Task Force
9. Business Submitted by Congregational Action (if any)
10. Recognition of Those Completing Their Service to the MidAmerica Region This Year
11. Recognition of BLM AIW

12. Closing Words (MidAmerica Expression of Appreciation)

13. Adjournment

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Annual Meeting of the MidAmerica Region, UUA

April 30, 2016

RULE 1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of and action upon items must proceed in the order set forth in the Final Agenda unless during the meeting that order is changed by majority vote.

RULE 2. PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE

Speakers recognized by the President shall identify themselves by name and congregational affiliation. Participation in debate is limited to delegates. The President may waive this requirement.

RULE 3. MEANS OF VOTING

So long as a quorum is present, action on any question, unless the Bylaws otherwise provide, will proceed by vote of the delegates. The required proportion of votes cast by delegates to approve any action or resolution will be as set forth in the Bylaws or these Rules of Procedure.

RULE 4. PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

The provisions of Rule 5 notwithstanding, the Board will, at its discretion, either move the item as printed on the Final Agenda or move an amended version of the item.

RULE 5. AMENDMENTS

Except for clarifying amendments, amendments to the main motion and motions to refer, table or to call the question will not be in order until there has been at least ten minutes of debate, if that much is needed, on the merits of the main question as moved. No amendment or other change to any motion under consideration will be entertained unless it is submitted in writing. However, the President may waive this requirement.

RULE 6. TIME LIMITS

The following time limits are imposed on all business transacted by the assembly. If, however, there is no objection from the floor, the President may grant minor extensions of time. Any time limits imposed by this rule may be extended by a two-thirds vote.

- a) No person may speak on any motion for more than two minutes, and not more than once, so long as there are others who have not spoken who desire the floor, except that persons having special information may, with the permission of the President, reply to questions.
- b) Twenty minutes is allowed for discussion of any proposed bylaw amendment, rule change, resolution, or action on a report that is on or admitted to the Final Agenda, unless the time limit is extended in the manner provided in the first paragraph of this Rule 6. Whenever possible, the discussion time will be equally divided by proponents and opponents and by the alternate recognition of Pro and Con speakers.
- c) A motion to call the previous question on the main motion shall not be in order if there are potential speakers at both Pro and Con microphones and the original or extended time for discussion has not expired. A motion to call the previous question on a motion to amend the main motion is in order after 8 minutes of discussion concerning the amendment.

RULE 7. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

At any stage of the meeting, the President, without a vote of the assembly, at his or her discretion from time to time may order the meeting resolved into a Committee of the Whole or reconvened in regular Session. While the meeting is acting as a Committee of the Whole, the following Special Rule will apply: The Presiding Officer, without a vote of the Committee of the Whole, may permit reconsideration of any action taken by the Committee of the Whole and other departures of the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure if it appears to him or her that the work of the Committee of the Whole will thereby be expedited. When the assembly is reconvened, the only motion in order will be to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole. A motion recommended by the Committee of the Whole will not be subject to amendment, debate, or delay.

RULE 8. AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

These Rules of Procedure will be adopted by a two-thirds vote and may be amended, suspended, or repealed during the course of the assembly only by a two-thirds vote.